



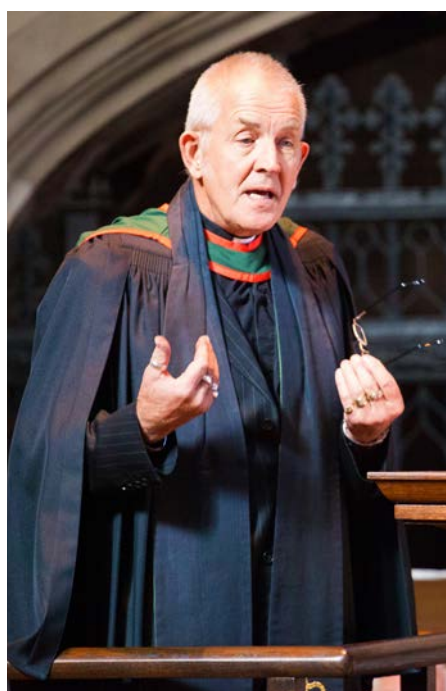
The Worshipful Company of Farmers Autumn 2018

Newsletter

Inspiring, encouraging and developing excellence in the management and leadership of UK agriculture



The new Master of the Worshipful Company of Farmers, Rosie Carne installed at a service at St Bartholomew the Great



The Reverend Dr Gordon Gatward gives the sermon at the WCF Harvest Festival



The Master appoints Sheriff Liz Green an Honorary Freeman of the Company

inside

- 2/3 Meet the new Master and Wardens
- 4 Education update
- 5 Affiliations
- 6/7 Installation and Harvest Luncheon
- 8/9 Inter-Livery Events
- 10 Events not to be missed
- 11 Charity Matters
- 11 Something to celebrate



Meet the new Master...

Thank you for the honour of serving as your Master for the ensuing year. I maybe one of the only Masters of the Farmer's Company to be a Londoner, though we moved when I was a baby. I am not a farmer, nor from a farming family. I was a horsey girl who got seduced into farming. Keeping the pony at a friend's farm, I got involved with the sheep and arable enterprises, and passed the tractor test when I was 16. I read Agriculture at Reading University and joined Fisons/Hydro/Yara spending 40 years in the fertilizer industry in technical, agronomic, sales, marketing and communication roles. I moved from East Sussex, to Northumberland, to Devon, to Yorkshire and after 5 years in Oslo, finally to Bath. I met many of you on that 40-year career journey. I was known by some as: "Miss Tillage" and something less repeatable by my competitors. I was clothed in 1998.



The theme for my year is: "Evidence-based decision making" - I plan to invite speakers from different industries to cover this subject and it is my aim that we have an informative but fun year. I relish the opportunity you have given me! My Wardens and I look forward to sharing the year with you all.

We will also be continuing the Health &



Our new Master – Rosie Carne is a Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Societies and a Fellow of the British Guild of Agricultural Journalists

Wellbeing initiative under my chaplain, Gordon Gatward's chairmanship. This is an important and timely initiative and I am delighted to give it my full support. In addition, the on-going business of the Farmer's Company will continue: notably supporting our educational programme, our charitable causes, managing our Hall, supporting

City of London events, together with our continuing quest to promote British farming in the City of London at every opportunity.

It is going to be a busy year so keep your eye on the WCF Newsletters and the website for updates on everything that's happening.

...and your new Wardens



Senior Warden David Bolton

David joined the Farmers Company in 2003, was clothed by Lord Plumb in 2006 and went onto the Court in 2009. Until 2013 he chaired the Finance and Investment Committees during the Hall's recent refurbishment and started a second term on the Farmers & Fletcher's Hall Board in October 2017.

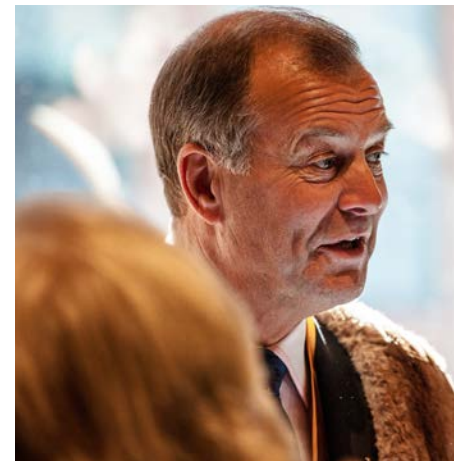
Educated at Eton, David took both his Agricultural Degree and Farm Business Administration Diploma at

Wye College before spending 20 years with Bidwells, working closely with the late Sir Francis Pemberton running farms and advising clients around the country. Subsequently as a partner, and latterly chairman, of Andersons the Farm Business Consultants he oversaw that company's expansion. He formed his own consultancy, David Bolton Partners, in 2008.

Junior Warden Richard Whitlock

Richard was clothed in 2011 and joined the Court in 2015. As well as his Junior Warden responsibilities, he also chairs the Livery Funding Committee. He is a horticulturalist's son from the New Forest in Hampshire. He studied Agricultural Merchandising at Berkshire College of Agriculture. This was followed by a 2-year part-time course in International Trade and Shipping at, what was then, the City of London Polytechnic.

In 2010 Richard set up his own consultancy business. He has been a Director of the AHDB Crops Board, Chairman of the Defra/AHDB Market Intelligence Consultative Committee and Chairman of TASC (the merchant's equivalent of Red Tractor). Richard was Chairman of the Oxford Farming Conference in 2014/15 and was Chairman of the East of England Agricultural Society's Annual Conference until earlier this year.



The Honourable Elizabeth Green made an Honorary Freeman of the Company



The Installation Luncheon was the perfect time and place to welcome Liz Green, recently appointed non-aldermanic Sheriff of the City of London, as an Honorary Freeman of the Company.

Liz is the daughter of Past Master Baroness Hazel Byford and a farmer

through her involvement in the Byford family farms. Very sadly Hazel's husband Barrie died one month into her Mastership and Liz immediately stepped into the Consort role, accompanying and supporting her mother on many Company occasions. She and her husband Peter have continued a close association with the Company and supported many of our events.

Liz became Master of the Framework Knitters Company in 2015/16 - following her father and grandfather - and many members of the Farmers Company enjoyed fellowship with

that Company. In 2017 Liz began her campaign to become the non-aldermanic Sheriff supporting the 2018/19 Lord Mayor. The Sheriffs live at The Old Bailey during their year in office and accompany the Lord Mayor in London and on overseas trips, assisting in the promotion of the City of London and British business. Several of our Liverymen supported Liz, saw her successful election in June and attended her Installation Ceremony on Friday 28th September at Guildhall.

One of the key roles of our Company is to represent and promote the farming industry within the City of London, whilst building strong links with the wider Livery community. Liz's association with our Company, has already greatly contributed to these efforts, making the award of Honorary Freeman particularly appropriate.



Profiting from Precision Technology in Agriculture

Course details and dates announced

At the Court meeting on the 9th October, Chairman of Education Karen Mercer was able to announce the dates and final details of our latest management and leadership initiative – the Profiting from Precision Technology in Agriculture (PPTA) course. Karen told the Court that the first running of the new course, which has been in development for some two years now and which will be run in partnership with Harper Adams, will commence in November 2019. The course is structured in three independent blocks, spanning from November 2019 to June 2020. Delegates will be required to attend all three blocks to graduate from the course.

A key feature of the course is the opportunity to travel outside the UK to see how other countries are tackling the challenge of integrating new technology into farming best-practice.

The closing date for applications for the first course is 31st July 2019 with interviews and a tour of Harper Adams for potential delegates scheduled to take place on September 12th 2019.

Work on identifying delegates will start immediately says Karen Mercer.

"We know there is considerable interest amongst farmers for this type of course. The potential of precision agriculture to both improve farm output and satisfy the ever-tighter controls on the way we farm, is considerable. We see the ideal delegate as someone involved in agriculture in the broadest sense, it could be a farmer, an advisor or someone involved in the food chain. They will need to have at least five years experience and be in a position to influence how and when precision technology is integrated into the farming system they are involved in."



Liverymen are encouraged to talk about the new course to friends, colleagues and business associates and to actively seek-out potential delegates that fit the profile Karen has outlined.

It should be noted that from 2021 onwards the timing will change

slightly, with the course blocks held in February, April and June each year.

"The aim each year is create a cohort of ambassadors within the agri-food sector, capable of contributing to the debate around the future shape of our industry in the light of the agri-tech revolution we are living through."

Says Karen Mercer

2019 – 2020 Course Timetable

Week 1. 18th November – 22nd November 2019 - Orientation – Based at Harper Adams University

This initial five-day block will help delegates develop a better understanding of the critical trends in the global agri-tech industry. It will assist participants to identify the "why" question, by looking at the external agribusiness environment, analysing the underlying trends and dynamics of different sectors including (but not limited to) Dairy, Arable, Red Meat, White Meat and Horticulture.

Week 2. 27th April – 1st May 2020 - Visit to Netherlands in conjunction with HAS University of Applied Sciences

This week will involve visits to farms and businesses in a different setting

where innovations in agri-tech are driving efficiency or environmental performance. These may include Precision Livestock Farming systems, Crop Precision Farming Systems but may also include the use of agri-tech in horticulture and flower and bulb production.

Week 3. 22th June – 26th June 2020 - Evaluation & Adoption.

The final week of the course will allow participants to evaluate weeks one and two, having discussed, analysed and seen first-hand the technologies and discussed them with farmers, industry specialists, policy makers and researchers and explore the "research into practice" dynamic.

Immediate Past Master Julian Sayers attends Wing Day

On Sunday September 9th the Company was again well represented at RAF Northolt to join in with our Cadet Affiliate, the Middlesex Wing Air Training Corps Annual Field Day and Review. The weather was dry and sunny and, as usual, the event was punctuated by the noise of jets taking off and landing from the airfield including one carrying the Prime Minister returning from yet another 'BREXIT' meeting.

Some 300 cadets and volunteer assistants took part in the event and it was a pleasure to see so many young people from every ethnic background and gender enjoying the friendship and competition that the cadet organisation provides. The Middlesex Wing has 20 squadrons each one reliant on support from organising former officers and take part in a wide variety of activities during the year culminating in this parade of the whole Wing.

The Company was represented by the Master and Mistress, Liveryman John Evans, Past Master Jeremy Courtney and Liveryman Anne Courtney who maintains constant liaison with the cadets primarily Wing Cdr Dejan (Dan) Mihailovic and Sqd Ldr Cherry

Barron. This year our party was given presentations by two cadets who had benefitted from the Company's bursaries to help defray the costs of international travel to meet other Air Cadet groups.

One of this year's winners was Cadet Warrant Officer Tom Hunt who spent two and a half weeks with 26 international cadets from eight countries visiting Canadian air bases and associated organisations including Griffin Helicopters. Tom, who is studying Aero Engineering at Swansea University, aims to become a helicopter pilot and enjoyed flying over fascinating territory. The other winner was Flight Sgt Gulmeyrem Yaman and spent two weeks in the USA near Washington with 28 cadets from various countries and she gave the party an interesting presentation on their activities.

The salute was taken by Group Captain Mike Carver, the Station Commander of RAF Northolt, and the Master presented the Livery Salver, for community involvement, to the winning Squadron 86 Heston and Isleworth Squadron.



Immediate Past Master, Julian Sayers presents the Livery salver

2019 visit to Waddington & Scampton planned

As liaison officer for our long standing affiliation with RAF Waddington, Past Master Philip Wynn tells me he is planning a Livery visit for 2019. Taking in not just Waddington but also a chance to meet the Red Arrows at nearby Scampton, this is a rare opportunity. The finer details of the



visit are currently being worked on but it looks likely to be early in 2019 and as I am sure those amongst us who attended last time we visited Waddington will endorse, it is a trip very well worth making. Keep your eyes on the events section of the WCF website www.farmerslivery.org.uk for more news as it emerges.



Installation and Harvest Luncheon



The wonderful, St Bartholomew the Great choir

The Master prepares to award Immediate Past Master Julian Sayer



The weather for the Installation of our sixty-seventh Master, Miss Rosie Carne, was perfect. Clear blue skies and warm sunshine were the order of the day and St Bartholomew the Great looked, if it's possible, even more picturesque than normal.

The WCF Harvest Festival Service is always special but there were two particular highlights this year. The singing of the wonderful choir and the sermon of The Reverend Gordon Gatwood – who managed to capture the very essence of what so many of us in the industry are thinking about the role of farming in society (you can find the full text of his sermon on the WCF website www.farmerslivery.org.uk).

The service proceeded flawlessly and with our new Master at our head we made our way across Smithfield Square to Haberdashers' Hall – one of the Livery Halls large enough to accommodate us for major occasions like this.



St Bartholomew the Great was as atmospheric and magical as ever



The Master, Warden, Beadle and Clerk outside St Bartholomew the Great

The Master, and newly installed Senior Warden David Bolton and Junior Warden Richard Whitlock greeted guests as we entered and we enjoyed a glass or two of champagne in the first floor reception gallery that overlooks the lovely garden courtyard.

s his Past Masters badge



Education Committee member Roger Derryman chats to Past Master, Archivist John Thorpe

With almost 200 Liverymen and guests in attendance, the atmosphere in the modern but still atmospheric, vaulted Livery Hall, was lively and convivial. In her first formal address to the Livery the Master appeared relaxed and at home right away.

It was a pleasure to witness the acceptance of the Court's invitation to the Honourable Margaret Elizabeth Green, newly appointed City Sherriff, to join the Livery as an Honorary Freeman. The Beadle presented the necessary paperwork, which was duly signed and the Master presented the Sherriff with a framed certificate to commemorate the day.

After thanking those who had been instrumental in the journey to this position at the head of the Livery, The Master launched her theme



Assistant Clerk Duncan Couper chats to guest Stephen Brandon and Liveryman Bill Young



WCF Apprentice - Miss Alice Rayner



for the year - 'Evidence based decision making' - before and just as importantly, assuring us of her commitment to the direction and initiatives of her predecessors, and in so doing, guaranteeing the continuity that has been such a feature of the management of the Livery over the last few years.



Company entertains and enlightens its City friends

The 2018 Masters and Clerks Luncheon - now an established annual event in the Company and the wider City calendar, was almost certainly the best yet. The turnout was excellent, with over seventy guests, representing some forty different Livery Companies, entertained by thirty members of the Company.

The Masters and Clerks luncheon has several functions - to thank those Companies who have extended hospitality to our Master and Company, to show off the Farmers & Fletcher's Hall and perhaps most importantly to tell the wider City something about farming and the role our Company plays in supporting it. This year's event achieved all three objectives wonderfully.

The Master very wisely sub-contracted the role of enlightening the guests about farming and the activities of the Company to the very able, entertaining and convincing Alice Midmer. As an alumnus of the Company's 2017 Challenge of Rural Leadership course and also a member of staff at LEAF, Alice was the perfect choice.



Immediate Past Master Julian Sayers with his guest speaker, CRL Alumnus Alice Midmer



In her presentation she talked about the unique nature and challenges of the farming industry, about the characters and the passion that she sees on a

daily basis and why in these challenging times good management of farming enterprises is essential - which is where, she said, the CRL course excelled.

The whole Company works so hard to invest our training courses with the right funding, syllabus, staff and environment to encourage the very best candidates to attend and to get the most from their investment in attending - and it is both reassuring and indeed gratifying to hear someone as clearly motivated and talented as Alice, demonstrate our efforts are well worthwhile.

The Immediate Past Master and friends tackled the tricky challenge of driving sheep across London Bridge



Immediate Past Master Julian Sayers & friends after their successful sheep drive

The Immediate Past Master and his wife were joined by friends from the Oxfordshire farming community to form the team for this year's London Bridge Sheep Drive. Suitably attired, they met the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs and Alan Titchmarsh before, in glorious sunshine, heading off to shepherd their allocated flock safely across the bridge. This fundraising event is organised each year by the Worshipful Company of Woolmen with the proceeds going to their own and the Lord Mayor's charities.

Inter-Livery Clay shoot – call for guns

Details of the 25th Anniversary, ILCS competition, which is to take place next year at the Holland & Holland shooting grounds on Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th May, have been announced and the Company has decided to once again enter two teams.

After a year or two of foreign trips Past Master Tony Alston returns to organise our teams for the 2019 event. We hope to select two teams, each capable of lifting the main trophy and it would be nice to re-gain the Horners' Trophy for the top Court team.

To accommodate the increasing number of entries experienced over recent years and to make the event more enjoyable for everyone, the organisers have decided to split the event over two days. This allows start times for 2019 to be later, breakfast will be from 7.30am with shooting starting at 9.30am, lunch being served in the new club house, this will reduce the queuing and more importantly offer a better opportunity for Liveryman to meet other Liveryman and have time to talk.



Anybody interested in coming to the Holland and Holland range in north London on 15/16 May 2019 - we will know which day later - please contact Tony Alston, via the Clerk or by emailing tonyalston@hotmail.com.

Successful first John Alliston Memorial Golf Day



On 11th September 26 golfers played for The John Alliston Tankard at Stratford Upon Avon.

The Tankard was won by Denis Chamberlain with 41 points ahead of Vic Truman with 38 points, on count back, from David Reading. The team event was won with 87 points by David Reading, Michael Turnbull and Edward Gollard ahead on count back from John Gittins, David Rose, Jesse Pigott and Martin Shaw. Third place with 83 points were Hazel Byford, Kay Pole, John Pigott and Martin Taylor.

The prizes were presented by John's widow - Petey Alliston.

The day raised £1,395, including donations, for The Worshipful Company of Farmers Charitable Fund. The 65th Management course at RAU, which was run by John, donated £300.

The date of next year's event will be Thursday 29th August 2019.



Events not to be missed

The Annual Livery Banquet – 15th January 2019

The 2019 Banquet will be held in the Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, London EC2V 6BN

In 1327 the Goldsmiths' Company received its first royal charter, giving it the right to enforce good authority, the standards within the trade and emphasising its standing over provincial goldsmiths. At this point the Goldsmiths decided they should have a headquarters. The chosen property lay near the 'Goldsmithery' or goldsmiths area, at the north end of Foster Lane in the parish of St. John Zachary. In 1339, nineteen goldsmiths bought it for the use of the Goldsmiths' Company. Though extended in area, this is the identical site on which Goldsmiths' Hall stands today. No other Company can claim a longer or earlier tenure.

One of the delights of attending any evening function in Goldsmiths' Hall is



to see the light refracted through the crystal glass of the Hall's famous four magnificent, matching chandeliers.

This event is not limited to members and spouses; friends and family are very welcome. Dress will be evening dress (white tie) or dinner jacket (black tie). All the popular features of our

Banquets are of course planned for the evening. We will assemble from 6.30pm and rise by 10.45pm. Tickets are £135 each and available from the Clerk or the members portal on the WCF website.

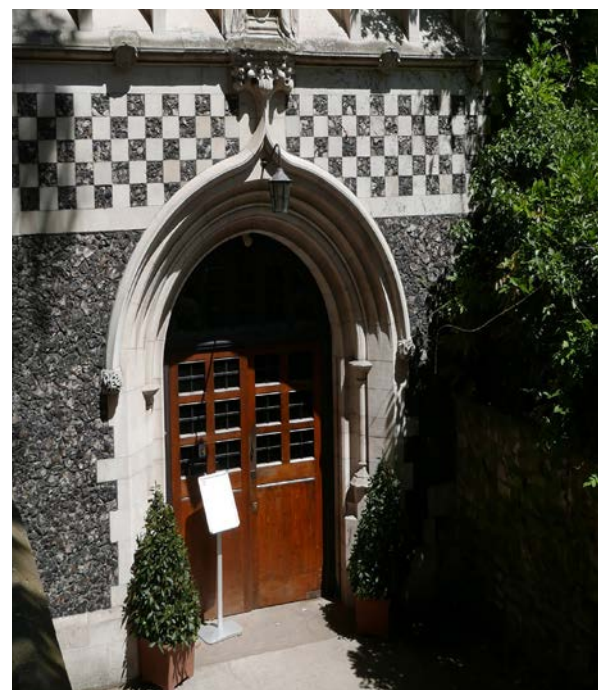
The City and Livery Familiarisation Day – 17th June 2019

Following the success of last year's event we will once again in 2019 be holding a 'Familiarisation Day'. This is a chance for all WCF Freeman and Liverymen and those considering joining the Company, to get to know more about the way our Company and the City of London Livery movement at large, operate and to hear some of the fascinating history of the Guilds in London.

We are delighted to be able to say we will be joined by City of London Alderman - William Russell, the Master and our trusty Beadle, who will between them, provide lots of important insights, advice and perhaps a few anecdotes as well.

There will be a light lunch (and a chance to practice your 'Loving Cup' etiquette) followed by a tour of some of the lesser-known and hidden delights of the City under the guidance of a professional City of London guide.

The day will commence at 9.30am and finish around 4pm. Tickets will be £40 and available from the Clerk and via the member's portal on the WCF website.





Richard Halhead - Charity Coordinator

Charity Matters

My recent research into charitable giving threw up one or two interesting points. Every year £2 billion is left to UK charities by legacy and statistics show that wills are written, rewritten or updated at significant life points i.e. marriage [and I suppose divorce], birth of children, retirement and illness.

As I have emphasized before, a codicil is the easiest and cheapest way of changing or adding to an existing will. It is also shown that small legacies, unless bequeathed for a specific purpose, tend to be swallowed up in the core costs of the organization.

The best way to strengthen your Livery's service to agriculture is a gift that helps to enhance our charitable programmes. It is a wonderful philanthropic gesture that will be remembered with gratitude and create a lasting memorial for generations to come. We are grateful for the most recent very generous legacy from the estate of the late Jill Willows after her tragic and untimely death.

I exhort all of you, when that life point occurs, and you have provided for your family to consider a share of the remainder to your Livery Company.

Richard T Halhead FRAGS
Charity Coordinator

Something to celebrate

It is with great pleasure that we are able to report that at the recent Farmers Weekly Awards Dinner our honorary chaplain - The Revd Dr Gordon Gatward was awarded the coveted Lifetime Achievement Award.

Gordon has a long been intimately involved with the Company, having been honorary chaplain to Past Masters Thomas Wheatley-Hubbard and Julian Sayers and holding the same position for our current Master Rosie Carne. He has also been a driving force, with Past Master Philip Wynn, in the creation and development of the Company's important and timely - Health & Wellbeing Initiative - something he now chairs.

In the citation for the award, Farmers Weekly highlighted the enormous breadth of Gordon's involvement in UK agriculture, saying: -

'For decades, the Methodist minister has worked tirelessly and selflessly in a host of capacities to help farmers and their families.'

His roles have spanned everything from being chairman of the Farm Crisis Network (now the Farming Community Network), chairman of Care Farming UK and a board member of Linking Environment And Farming (Leaf).

It was between 1999 and 2013, though, when he was chief executive of the Arthur Rank Centre (ARC), that he became more widely known. His achievements at the charity included overseeing the establishment of the Addington Fund in the wake of the 2001 foot-and-mouth epidemic.

Back then the fund provided a lifeline to devastated farmers - it responded to more than 20,000 appeals for help and distributed more than £10m. He has served on the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs board of management, is chaplain to the Royal Agricultural Society of England on behalf of the ARC, and is currently chairman of trustees at Pennyhooks Care Farm in Wiltshire.



Gordon's current responsibilities also include work with the Henry Plumb Foundation, the Gamekeepers' Welfare Trust and the Worshipful Company of Farmers (WCF).'

Speaking after the award had been announced Immediate Past Master, Julian Sayers said.

"He'll travel the length and breadth of the country and do whatever it takes to help others. 'It's been a huge privilege that he has served as my honorary chaplain and led our industry-wide health and wellbeing initiative.'"

I am sure everyone in the Farmers Company will want to join Julian, Rosie and Thomas in saying, that we all think the award is richly deserved.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the Court meeting held on the 9th October the following were admitted as Freemen of the Company:

James Corbett

Proposed by Marcus Robert Cooper
Seconded by Pamela Jane Corbett

David Andrew Harrod

Proposed by Jeremy Stuart Hitcham
Seconded by Richard Edwin Anscombe

Nicholas Robin Johnson

Proposed by Philip Graham Wynn
Seconded by Peter Walter Wiggins-Davies

Also at the Court meeting held on the 9th October the following joined as Assistants:

Guy Lister Brogden
Stephen Paul Watkins
John Grant Burton
Mark Peter Hill

At the Harvest Festival Luncheon on 9th October

Sheriff **The Hon. Elizabeth Green**
was granted Honorary Freemanship of the Company



EVENTS

2018

4th December 2018

Common Hall & Court & Livery
Luncheon
Ironmongers' Hall

Tuesday 18th December at 18:00

Carol Service
Church of St Bartholomew the Great

2019

Tuesday 15th January

Annual Banquet,
Goldsmiths' Hall

Thursday 24th January

Inter-Livery Ski Championship
Morzine, France

Tuesday, 26th February

City Food Lecture
Guildhall

Tuesday 5th March

Inter Livery Pancake Race
Guildhall Yard

Tuesday 12th March

Court & Livery Lunch
Farmers & Fletchers' Hall

Friday 29th March

United Guilds Service
St Paul's Cathedral

Wednesday 3rd April

Agricultural Lecture & Dinner
Plasterers' Hall

Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th

May
Inter-Livery Clay Shoot
Holland & Holland Shooting Ground,

Tuesday 21st May to Saturday 25th May

Farmers' Company Spring Visit to
Rapallo
Italian Riviera

Tuesday 4th June

Court & Livery Luncheon
Farmers and Fletchers' Hall

Monday 17th June

City & Livery Familiarisation Day
Farmers & Fletcher's Hall

Tuesday 8th October

Harvest Thanksgiving and
Installation of the new Master
St Bartholomew the Great,
Smithfield

Saturday 9th November

Lord Mayor's Show
City of London

Tuesday 3rd December

Common Hall & Court and Livery
Luncheon
Carpenters Hall



WITH REGRET

It is with great sadness and regret that we announce the death of Michael Edward Scott Dart, who died on the 4th November 2018. Michael was clothed on 12th March 1990. He served on Court until 2006 and the Education Committee until 2008. As Vice Chairman of that committee he was instrumental in the introduction and nurturing of the Challenge of Rural Leadership Course.